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ABSTRACT

This bulletin briefly describes the functions and services offered by the State Educational Accountability Repository (SEAR), a program of the Cooperative Accountability Project (CAP). SEAR was created as a center to collect information about state accountability efforts and to disseminate it to state education agencies, and to develop accountability-related documents based on collected articles. Information collected included material on accountability legislation, assessment and evaluation programs, educational goals and objectives, performance indicators, correlates of achievement and dissemination methods and problems. SEAR develops various reports and bibliographies from the accountability information collected in the repository. The bulletin lists a number of upcoming CAP publications, many which are concerned with educational, legislative and testing issues. (SE)

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State Educational Accountability Repository

SEAR

A Program of the
COOPERATIVE ACCOUNTABILITY PROJECT
1362 Lincoln Street
Denver, Colorado 80203

Fall 1975

U S DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
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Bulletin No. 5054

Division for Management and Planning Services
Department of Public Instruction
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Madison, Wisconsin

SEAR was created as a center to:

–collect information about state accountability efforts
–develop accountability-related documents based on the articles collected
–disseminate accountability information to state education agencies and to other interested persons/groups who request the information

SEAR collects information about state level:

–Accountability legislation
–Assessment and evaluation programs
–PPBS, MIS and MBO systems
–Educational goals and objectives
–Performance indicators
–Correlates of achievement
–Professional employee evaluation
–Performance-based accreditation
–Dissemination methods and problems
–Other specific aspects of accountability

The SEAR Repository contains over 1500 documents which reflect the theory and practice of state level accountability in the United States.

SEAR disseminates accountability information to individual requestors and the SEAR mailing list. Call or write:

James H. Gold, Director

or

Phyllis Hawthorne, Research Analyst
State Educational Accountability Repository
Department of Public Instruction
126 Langdon Street – Room 228
Madison, Wisconsin 53702

Telephone: (608) 266-1344

SEAR serves as a distribution center for all CAP products. SEAR developed the following reports from the accountability information collected for the repository.

- *Annotated Bibliography of the State Educational Accountability Repository.* (WI) August 1974 by Phyllis Hawthorne ERIC ED 098 655. Lists over 1500 reports from state education agencies on various aspects of accountability. Final updating Spring 1976.

- *Legislation by the States: Accountability and Assessment in Education.* (WI) Revised Fall 1975 by Phyllis Hawthorne. State legislation on education accountability, including assessment and evaluation, PPBS, MIS, evaluation of professionals based on performance, performance contracting. Final Revision Spring 1976.

- *State Goals for Elementary and Secondary Education.* (WI) Revised September 1973 by Susan Ketchum Ribble ERIC ED 083 747. Goals statements by the state education agencies, listed by state.

- *Characteristics of and Proposed Models for State Accountability Legislation.* (WI) April 1973 by Phyllis Hawthorne and Archie Buchmiller ERIC ED 078 514. Contains highlights of what is required in each state's legislative acts by identifying their specific characteristics, comparisons, and comments on omissions and trends are presented. "Model Acts" illustrates a format of four accountability and assessment laws.

- *Accountability: A Bibliography.* (WI) July 1973 by Gordon Hanson ERIC ED 082 342 and ED 084 630. A general bibliography of the background and methodology of accountability. LIMITED DISTRIBUTION.

- *Predictors of Achievement: A Bibliography.* (WI) September 1973 by Gordon Hanson ERIC ED 084 629. OUT OF PRINT. Available only through ERIC sources.

- *State Educational Goals and Objective Setting Approaches.* (WI) Fall 1975 by Susan Ketchum Ribble. Components and models of typical goal-setting approaches.

- *Educational Accountability in Four States: A Historical Perspective.* Winter 1975 by Phyllis Hawthorne. A detailed report of the accountability efforts in four represented states. LIMITED DISTRIBUTION.

Other CAP reports available through SEAR:

- *Keeping the Public Informed: Accent on Accountability.* (MI) 1973 by Erwin Bettinghaus and Gerald Miller. A digest of a detailed report that develops a dissemination model for educational accountability programs. It explains four basic steps to accomplish an effective accountability communication program and includes tips for working with the news media. Several observations about the communication process and three basic communication theories are discussed.

- *A Dissemination System for State Accountability Programs.* (MI) June 1973 by Erwin Bettinghaus and Gerald Miller (in three parts). Outlines potential reporting strategies of the results from the application of educational accountability models. Examines accountability models and reactions of various publics to them. Examines dissemination policies within the framework of contemporary communication theory to develop a rationale for constructing an appropriate model. Outlines a dissemination program and its relationship to educational accountability. LIMITED DISTRIBUTION.

- *Developing a Large Scale Assessment Program.* (MN) July 1973 by Frank Womer. Practical information concerning the establishment of an assessment program at state and local levels and its role as an aspect of accountability. It suggests specific action steps to determine what and how much the students are learning along with the procedures to bring about improvements. Some topics included: selecting a sample, collecting data, processing and utilizing results, dissemination activities, check-points for evaluation, and outlines of five state assessment programs in operation. LIMITED DISTRIBUTION.

- *Indicators and Statewide Assessment.* (OR) March 1974 by Robert Clemmer and others. Discusses the potential use of indicators as an aspect of statewide assessment. Includes: definitions, suggested criteria for selection of indicators, uses, difficulties, and inventory of sources.

- *Roles of Participants in Educational Accountability.* (CO) 1974 by Carl Wilsey and Glenn Schroeder. Clarifies role definitions for better understanding of the participants and their roles in the operation of public school accountability programs. An approach to improved accountability by identifying the roles that seem appropriate. Highlights areas of conflict or disagreement and suggests ways to resolve the conflicts.

- *Using Educational Indicators for Program Accountability.* (CO) September 1974 by Michael J. Grady, Jr. Provides specific guidelines for the application of indicators at the local school district level.

- *Who's Afraid of Educational Accountability? A representative review of the literature.* Summer 1975 by Lesley H. Browder, Jr. Couples a summary of accountability definitions with a recap of the various outside pressures which have caused this educational phenomenon to gain momentum.

- *Accounting for Accountability.* (CO) 1975. Reports on two Regional Educational Accountability Conferences on Techniques sponsored in January and February 1975 by the Cooperative Accountability Project.

- *Costs of Educational Accountability: A Maryland Exploratory Study.* 1974. A survey and projection of costs of various accountability components and sources for obtaining cost data.

- *CAP Information Quarterly:*
  Issue I – "Accountability: A Description as Viewed by the Cooperative Accountability Project"
  Issue II – "A Primer for Accountability in Education"
  Issue III – "Accountability in American Education: Will It Make A Difference?"
  Issue IV – "Accountability in the Classroom"

- *CAP Commentary:*
  Vol. 1, No. 1 – March 1974 by John Brademas.
  Vol. 1, No. 2 – June 1974 by Roslyn M. Grady, Ph.D.
  Vol. 1, No. 3 – November 1974 by Terrel H. Bell.
  Vol. 1, No. 4 – July 1975 by Leon M. Lessinger.
  Vol. 1, No. 5 – September 1975 by Albert R. Wight.

Upcoming CAP Publications

—*Condition Variables in Relation to Measured Student Performance* (by J. Robert Coldiron and Eugene W. Skiffington. A study of the use of quality education indicators — measurements of a criterion of progress — based on the statewide assessment program in Pennsylvania.)

—*Cooperative Accountability Project (CAP) Impact Study* (by Eugene W. Skiffington. An investigation of users' reactions to selected, printed CAP materials and to the CAP-sponsored Regional Educational Accountability Conferences on Techniques (REACT).)

—*An Objective-Referenced Program Cost Model for Educational Management — A Maryland Perspective* (by Stephen P. Holowenzak and Robert A. Stagmer. Details a method of cost-pricing educational accountability components based on objectives at state, local, and school building levels.)

—*Operating an Objective-Referenced Testing Program: Florida's Approach to Large-Scale Assessment* (by Judy L. Haynes and Crane Walker. A review of Florida's objective-referenced testing efforts including the state's determination of which educational outcomes should be assessed, what procedures can be used for effective assessment, how to involve educators on various levels in the assessment process, and how to develop and administer viable assessment instruments.)

- *Striving Toward Dialogue: A Report on the National Forum on Educational Accountability* (A realistic review of interaction between teachers, educational decision makers, and concerned laymen at a unique forum held in May, 1975, under the sponsorship of the U. S. Office of Education with the assistance of the Cooperative Accountability Project, National Education Association, and American Federation of Teachers.

THE COOPERATIVE ACCOUNTABILITY PROJECT (CAP), initiated in April 1972, is a 3-year, seven-state project financed by funds provided under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (Public Law 89–10, Title V, Section 505, as amended). Colorado is the administering state. Other cooperating states are:

Florida	Minnesota
Maryland	Pennsylvania
Michigan	Wisconsin

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